

In the Specification

[0030] Handlebar tilting apparatus 10 also includes a lever 90 that is useful for tilting the upper bracket 20 relative to the lower bracket 22, and hence the handlebar 14 relative to the vehicle 12. Lever 90 is pivotally attached to the upper bracket 20. Lever 90 includes a pair of opposing side plates 92, 94 each including a through hole 96 configured to receive a lever pin 98 and a through slot 100 configured to receive a latch pin 102. Slot 100 is provided to facilitate the tilting or pivoting action of the lever 90 by providing some "play" in the motion of the latch pin 102. That is, the latch pin 102 is able to slide within the slot 100 as the lever 90 is pivoted and thereby prevents substantial binding or interference between the latch pin 102 and the slots 32 and [28] 38, which could otherwise make movement of the lever 90 and thereby the tilting motion difficult for the operator. The lever pin 98 and latch pin 102 can each be retained in position by any known means such as retaining rings or push nuts. The lever 90 also includes a push plate 104 that extends between the side plates 92 and 94. Push plate 104 preferably has a substantially planar configuration that is presented towards the rear of the vehicle 12.